

FCC,

I respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to support XM's ability to provide the kind of programming that people demand and deserve. There's really only one reason to ban satellite radio providers from delivering local coverage--to protect the existing radio industry from competition. The large companies need to have some competition. The programming is weak and limited; and the commercials are far too many. I should be able to pay for radio and get more choice just as I do for my television. That choice should include the ability to hear local traffic and weather.

The fact that satellite radio has grown from nothing to where it is now says that there is a market need which has been fulfilled by XM that was not being fulfilled by the large companies. With almost no competition, these companies most likely would not have a reason to change and meet the needs of the market. I have been extremely satisfied with the XM radio service and I am excited about the chances of getting local weather and traffic for here in Cincinnati. On a recent trip driving to Chicago I was able to listen to the traffic conditions and alter my route accordingly to avoid being stuck in traffic and not adding to the problem. You can't do that with most stations on regular radio.

So please reject the NAB's petition 04-160.

Mark Richter